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five per cent. greater than those made on the bright sky; and although the night measures agree well with those obtained by other observers,* it seems to me that the daylight measures are much nearer the truth.

Daylight measures possess many of the advantages of heliometer or other double-image measures, and do not have their principal disadvantages. In the cases of *Venus* and *Mars*, and possibly some other of the nearer bodies, the great range in distance from the Earth enables us to eliminate the systematic errors very satisfactorily. For the more distant bodies the errors cannot thus be eliminated. In such cases — as well as in all cases — the observer is bound to reduce the magnitude of the systematic errors as far as possible. One of the most effective methods, in my judgment, is to make the observations when the Sun is above the horizon.

In 1894 I measured the diameter of *Mars*, (*a*) on the dark sky, (*b*) between daylight and sunrise, and (*c*) with the Sun well above the horizon. The advantages of the bright-sky background were very marked. Measures made with the utmost care at night, on the dark background, were systematically 0″.3 to 0″.7 greater than those made after sunrise. Measures made between dawn and sunrise progressively decreased as the sky brightened. From my discussion of a long series of observations made after sunrise, it appeared that their systematic error was 0″.05, whereas the systematic error of the night measures was about 0″.6.

W. W. CAMPBELL.

PROFESSOR KRUEGER.

CARL NICOLAUS ADALBERT KRUEGER, whose death was announced in a recent number of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, was born at Marienburg, in Prussia, in 1832; was educated at Elbing and Wittenburg and at the University of Berlin. At the age of twenty-one, he was appointed assistant at the Bonn Ob-

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* The principal values obtained by other observers are:

	I.	II.	III.	IV.
	″	″	″	″
W. STRUVE,	1.015	0.911	1.488	1.273
MÆDLER,	1.200	1.132	1.519	1.300
ENGLEMANN,	1.08	0.91	1.54	1.28
SECCHI,	0.985	1.054	1.609	1.496
HOUGH,	1.11	0.98	1.78	1.46
BURNHAM,	1.11	1.00	1.78	1.61
MICHELSON,	1.02	0.94	1.37	1.31
BARNARD,	1.048	0.874	1.521	1.430

servatory, under ARGELANDER. Here, with SCHÖNFELD as his colleague, his main work was the well-known *Durchmusterung*. In 1862 he was appointed director of the Observatory at Helsingfors, and professor in the University. Aside from his teaching, his principal care was the meridian observation of the zone + 55° to + 65°, for the star catalogue of the *Astronomische Gesellschaft;* and when, in 1877, he was appointed director of the Observatory at Gotha, he continued and completed this work there, using the same instrument he had used at Helsingfors.

Besides his work on these two great catalogues, Professor KRUEGER found time for many important investigations of a less routine character. With the Bonn heliometer he made determinations of the parallaxes of *70 Ophiuchi*, *Lalande 2156*, and *O. Arg. 17415–6*, and a careful survey of the stars in the cluster *h Persei;* and, at Helsingfors, he published a research on the orbit of the minor planet, *Themis*, made with the purpose of determining the mass of *Jupiter*. Many other observations and mathematical investigations relating to the minor planets, the more interesting comets, and variable stars, were published during these years.

In 1880 Professor KRUEGER was chosen director of the Kiel Observatory, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. C. A. F. PETERS. Shortly afterward, he assumed, in addition, the editorial control of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, which, from its hundredth volume (1880) has been published under the auspices of the *Astronomische Gesellschaft*. He was left free, however, in the editorial management of this celebrated journal, and its high character, in the past sixteen years, has been very largely due to him.

When the "Centralle Stelle für Astronomische Telegramme" was established, its administration was placed in the hands of Professor KRUEGER, who discharged its duties faithfully, and very successfully.

Before leaving Bonn, Professor KRUEGER married the daughter of ARGELANDER, and, following her mother's example, their daughter married an astronomer, Dr. KREUTZ, now at Kiel, and temporarily in charge of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*.

R. G. AITKEN.

COMET NOTES.

Comet *IV* 1895 is still visible in the thirty-six inch telescope; but is not brighter than a 16th magnitude star. According to theory, it should be between 11th and 12th magnitude.

Comet *a* 1896 has been lost to view for about two months, its apparent motion having carried it into the Sun's rays.

C. D. PERRINE.

Comet *c* 1896, SWIFT. In the latter part of May, and in June, the brightness of this comet decreased very rapidly; in fact, out of all proportion to the law of the inverse squares of its distances from the Earth and from the Sun. This was probably due to its want of any visible nucleus, and to its diffuseness. It remained of large apparent size as long as it was visible.

W. J. HUSSEY.

THE YERKES OBSERVATORY.

No. 43 of these *Publications* contains a short account of the Yerkes Observatory, of the University of Chicago, by the Director, Professor GEORGE E. HALE. He has recently contributed an article on the same subject to the *Astronomische Nachrichten* (No. 3356) from which it appears that a twenty-four inch reflector of eight feet focal length will occupy one of the smaller domes instead of the sixteen-inch refractor at first proposed.

This article also states that the publications of the Observatory will include *Bulletins*, containing announcements of results, brief descriptions of new buildings and instruments, and notes; *Contributions*, consisting of papers contributed to scientific journals; *Annals*, containing detailed accounts of special researches; the *Astrophysical Journal* (now in its fourth volume); and *Terrestrial Magnetism* (now in its first volume).

The staff of the observatory is as follows: GEORGE E. HALE, Director and Astrophysicist; S. W. BURNHAM, Astronomer; E. E. BARNARD, Astronomer; F. L. O. WADSWORTH, Astrophysicist; L. A. BAUER, Geophysicist; FERDINAND ELLERMAN, Assistant; G. WILLIS RITCHEY, Optician; EDMUND KANDLER, Mechanician; WILLIAM GAERTNER, Mechanician.

Messrs. T. J. J. SEE and KURT LAVES will give graduate and undergraduate instruction in theorectical and practical astronomy